

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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TAGS: SENV, OCON, JA

SUBJECT: US-JAPAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL
POLLUTION: ROUND-UP

SUMMARY: THIRD US-JAPAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRON-
MENTAL POLLUTION CONCLUDED MAY 20 WITH ISSUANCE JOINT COMMUNIQUE
AND GENERAL AGREEMENT TO DEVELOP COOPERATION FURTHER. END
SUMMARY.

1. PRELIMINARY STAFF MEETING HELD MAY 17 AND 18 WAS ROUTINE
REVIEW OF WHAT HAD HAPPENED IN ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD SINCE 1971,
FOLLOWING AGREED AGENDA. JAPANESE SIDE PROPOSED THREE NEW
PROJECTS: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT; MANAGEMENT OF BOTTOM
SEDIMENTS CONTAINING TOXIC POLLUTANTS, AND AIR POLLUTION-
RELATED METEOROLOGY. US SIDE PROPOSED TWO: HEALTH EFFECTS
OF POLLUTANTS, AND IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES.
ALL ACCEPTED AND PUT INTO JOINT COMMUNIQUE.

2. JAPANESE ALSO PROPOSED TO INCLUDE IN COMMUNIQUE THAT BOTH
SIDES HAD QUOTE AGREED TO ESTABLISH A PLANNING AND COORDINATION
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COMMITTEE, WHICH SHALL BE ENTRUSTED TO REVIEW AND COORDINATE

ON-GOING ACTIVITIES AND TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE NEW AREAS OF COOPERATION UNQUOTE. US SIDE DID NOT ACCEPT, INSISTING THAT SUCH LANGUAGE PROPERLY BELONGED IN BILATERAL AGREEMENT.

3. ACTUAL MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE HELD MAY 20. DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON FIVE ITEMS: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT; ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT; TOXIC CHEMICALS; LAND USE; AND FUTURE COOPERATION. DISCUSSION FRANK AND RAPPORT SEEMED TO HAVE DEVELOPED BETWEEN MIKI AND PETERSON. ALTHOUGH US STAFF SUGGESTED TO JAPANESE STAFF THAT NEXT MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE COULD BE HELD IN TWO YEARS, MIKI PROPOSED ANOTHER NEXT YEAR, WHICH PETERSON ACCEPTED. LOCAL POLITICAL REASONS MAY HAVE PROMPTED MIKI REQUEST, BUT IMPRESSION IS THAT HE IS GENUINELY CONCERNED WITH ENVIRONMENT.

4. WHALES MENTIONED BY US SIDE AT BOTH PRELIMINARY AND MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, BUT NO REAL RESPONSE FROM JAPANESE SIDE.

5. MIKI AND PETERSON AGREED TO TRANSFER OF UJNR FUNCTIONS. ALSO AGREED TO WORK MORE ON ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT.

6. AT INFORMAL STAFF LEVEL MEETING MAY 21, NEW LANGUAGE PROPOSED BY JAPANESE FOR ARTICLE IV OF AGREEMENT, QUOTE THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES AGREED UPON BY THE OECD COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE AS A BASIS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS UNQUOTE. US SIDE INDICATED LANGUAGE PROBABLY ACCEPTABLE, SUBJECT FINAL APPROVAL FROM WASHINGTON.

7. BOTH SIDES DISCUSSED COMBINING ARTICLES II AND V TO INCLUDE PLANNING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE. JAPANESE ARE TO PREPARE NEW LANGUAGE. SEVERAL OTHER MINOR PROBLEMS ALSO CONSIDERED, LARGELY QUESTIONS OF STYLE.

8. AT PRELIMINARY AND MINISTERIAL MEETINGS US SIDE MADE POINT OF NECESSITY TO CHANGE MANNER IN WHICH PROJECTS ORGANIZED. MIKI AGREED TO NEW APPROACH, WHICH CARAKER FOLLOWED UP IN INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH JAPANESE COUNTERPARTS.

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9. TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWS:

QUOTE THE THIRD JAPAN-UNITED STATES MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION WAS HELD IN TOKYO FROM MAY 17 TO 20, 1974. THE JAPANESE DELEGATION, HEADED BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY, MR. TAKEO MIKI, AND THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION, HEADED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, DR. RUSSELL W. PETERSON,

ATTENDED THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING HELD ON MAY 20. PRIOR TO THIS MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING, A PRELIMINARY MEETING WAS HELD ON MAY 17 AND 18, IN WHICH THE JAPANESE DELEGATION AND THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION WERE HEADED BY MR. HIROMICHI MIYAZAKI, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE ECONOMIC AFFAIRS BUREAU, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND BY AMBASSADOR WILLIAM C. TRUEHEART, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, RESPECTIVELY. PARA. AT THE MEETINGS THE TWO SIDES EXCHANGED VIEWS ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELDS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS RELATING TO ENERGY RESOURCES AND USE, AIR POLLUTION CONTROL STRATEGIES AND AUTOMOBILE POLLUTION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS, WATER POLLUTION CONTROL STRATEGIES, REGULATIONS ON PERSISTENT TOXIC CHEMICALS, LAND USE PLANNING, AND ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION POLICY. IN VIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, BOTH SIDES REAFFIRMED THAT THE MASS CONSUMPTION OF ENERGY WITHOUT THE USE OF APPROPRIATE POLLUTION PREVENTATIVE MEASURES HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MAJOR CAUSES OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AND AGREED THAT MAXIMUM EFFORT MUST BE MADE FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ENERGY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLEAN ENERGY SOURCES. PARA. THE TWO SIDES FURTHER DISCUSSED BILATERAL COOPERATION AND A POSSIBLE AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BETWEEN THEM AS WELL AS MULTILATERAL COOPERATION IN THIS FIELD. PARA. BOTH DELEGATIONS REVIEWED THE COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES WHICH HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED BETWEEN THEIR COUNTRIES AND RECOGNIZED THE NECESSITY TO PROMOTE THEM FURTHER. THEY EXPRESSED THEIR READINESS TO EXPLORE THE MODES OF COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT, THE MANAGEMENT OF BOTTOM SEDIMENTS CONTAINING TOXIC POLLUTANTS, AIR POLLUTION-RELATED METEOROLOGY, HEALTH EFFECTS OF POLLUTANTS, AND IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES. PARA. BOTH DELEGATIONS AGREED TO THE TRANSFER OF THE AIR AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FUNCTIONS OF THE UJNR TO THIS MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ENCE. PARA. THE TWO SIDES FURTHER AGREED THAT THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE IS A USEFUL INSTRUMENT FOR IMPLEMENTING COOPERATION BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THAT THESE CONFERENCES SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE HELD ON A REGULAR BASIS. UNQUOTE. SHOESMITH

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